

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT  
OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)



AGRICULTURAL FIELDS NEAR MEXICALI, BC.



## USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT BORDER PROGRAMS

### RURAL DEVELOPMENT STATE OFFICE

**D. Paul Venosdel**  
*State Director*

**Janice Waddell**  
*Community Programs Director*  
E-mail: janice.waddell@ca.usda.gov

**Dave Hartwell**  
*Rural Utilities and Community  
Facilities Coordinator*

430 G Street, Agency 4169  
Davis, CA 95616-4169

Phone: (530) 792-5800  
Fax: (530) 792-5837  
E-mail: dave.hartwell@ca.usda.gov

### RURAL DEVELOPMENT LOCAL OFFICE (IMPERIAL, SAN DIEGO)

**Carolyn Mueller**  
*Community Development Manager*  
E-mail: carolyn.mueller@ca.usda.gov

**Alicia Salgado**  
*Community Development Specialist*

177 N. Imperial Avenue  
El Centro, CA 92243-2808

Phone: (760) 352-4418 ext. 4  
Fax: (760) 352-0219  
E-mail: alicia.salgado@ca.usda.gov

See the attached chart describing funding and assistance focusing on California border communities. A full *Catalog of Loan, Grant and Technical Assistance Programs* is available that covers all business, housing, infrastructure and community facilities development programs. This reference tool helps prospective applicants determine if there is a strong match between their strategic plans and the many USDA Rural Development programs available to them.

### RURAL STRATEGIES FOR SURVIVAL

California is a diverse panorama of economies. Within that landscape are hundreds of rural communities looking for economic development options.

All communities need and deserve the strategic partnerships and strong coalitions necessary to survive and prosper. Rural residents want affordable homes and essential community facilities. Rural workers need good jobs. Rural cities and towns need dependable water and utility services. And the rural business community needs economic stimulus to compete and expand.

### USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT IS ON YOUR TEAM

In California, USDA Rural Development is ready to help. And we are helping right now through:

- \_ Low interest home loans and self-help housing programs for the public
- \_ Affordable farm worker housing programs
- \_ Grant funding to communities and non-profit economic development groups
- \_ Low interest loans and grants for critical utility improvement projects
- \_ Technical assistance on community development, housing, business and infrastructure projects
- \_ Loan payment guarantee programs for business, home mortgage and multi-family housing lenders

### YES, IT CAN BE DONE

Our staff pledges to help our clients through the paperwork process. Most people are pleased to find that it doesn't require an MBA or PhD to complete a successful application. We work with prospects to explain USDA Rural Development programs, to help potential applicants determine if their project meets criteria and then to assist in strategic capital planning.

Welcome to USDA Rural Development in California! We are working to help rural people succeed.

D. Paul Venosdel  
State Director

### Special Rural Development Initiatives in California

USDA Rural Development has established a number of special initiatives to target its assistance to rural communities with the greatest need.

INITIATIVE	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	ASSISTANCE / CONTACT
<b>SW Border</b> Task Force on Economic Development of the Southwest Border	Multi-agency assistance to communities within 150 miles of the Mexican border	USDA gives higher priority in allocating these program funds and seeks greater leverage in concert with other federal programs - contact Chris Sundstrom at 559-734-8732
<b>Colonias</b> Communities	Multi-Family and Single Family housing and utilities development assistance for "Colonias" within 150 miles of US – Mexico border	USDA gives higher priority in allocating these program funds - contact USDA Local Offices
<b>EZ/EC</b> Empowerment Zone / Enterprise Community	Multi-program assistance for competitively selected communities demonstrating superior cooperation, planning and vision — rural EZ/ECs are in Imperial, Fresno, Tulare Counties, eastern Riverside County and the City of Watsonville	USDA devotes funds in nearly every program to assist EZ/EC communities - contact Chris Sundstrom at 559-734-8732
<b>CC</b> Champion Communities	Multi-program assistance for EZ/EC applicant communities that were not selected but are continuing to work toward their vision	USDA gives Champion Communities higher priority in allocating rural program funds - contact Chris Sundstrom at 559-734-8732
<b>Self Help</b> Self Help Housing Program	Low and very low-income applicants participate with their neighbors in the construction of their homes, fostering pride-of-ownership while reducing their home loans to a more affordable level	Significant RH 502 loan funds are reserved for Self-Help subdivisions every year - contact Bob Anderson at 530-792-5816
<b>CO-OPS</b> Cooperatives Initiative	USDA supports value-added agricultural cooperatives and other types of co-ops	USDA provides technical assistance, grants and guaranteed loans to co-ops - contact Karen Spatz at 530-792-5829
<b>CAIP</b> Community Adjustment and Investment Initiative	Supplemental USDA business program funding for counties suffering job losses from NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement)	Extra B and I Guaranteed Loan funds are available to support business projects in these designated areas - contact Larry Strong at 530-792-5805

